



Support for Interregional Transmission Planning Improvement Act

“The reliability, economic, and environmental benefits of expanding our transmission system are well documented, but the means to plan and pay for facilities unfortunately lag far behind,” **said the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE).** “We cannot afford for this to be the case any longer - the expansion and modernization of our national power grid is central to meeting our urgent climate and energy security goals. Senator Heinrich’s Interregional Transmission Planning Improvement Act offers a path.”

“Sen. Heinrich’s proposed legislation would greatly improve the process of planning interregional transmission,” **said Americans for a Clean Energy Grid (ACEG) Executive Director Christina Hayes.** “Our nation’s transmission system allows regions to share energy with their neighbors in periods of need – helping to keep the lights on during dangerous storms and prevent sudden energy price spikes that harm consumers. Over the past decade, however, development of this vital infrastructure has stalled. It’s past time to get moving again. ACEG looks forward to working with Sen. Heinrich and the full Congress to pass legislation that will keep the lights on and costs down for all Americans.”

“Enel supports the Interregional Transmission Planning Improvement Act, requiring FERC to initiate a rulemaking to look at opportunities to improve interregional transmission planning processes and analytics,” **said Paolo Romanacci, Head of Enel Green Power USA and Canada.** “Improved processes and analytics are also prerequisites for addressing other barriers to new investment, such as consistent benefits analysis between regions. Expanding interregional transmission capability will deliver numerous benefits, including lowering electricity costs for consumers, spurring rural economic development, and reducing the risk of high-cost outcomes and power outages during extreme weather events. Such a FERC rulemaking is long overdue. Virtually no major interregional transmission projects have been built in the U.S. over the last decade.”

“Pine Gate Renewables strongly supports Senator Heinrich’s Interregional Transmission Planning Improvement Act of 2023,” **said Pine Gate Renewables.** “The benefits associated with interregional transmission projects are wide-reaching, including increased reliability, enhanced resilience against extreme weather, and lower electricity costs for consumers. Significantly, interregional transmission projects will play a key role in facilitating Americans’ access to low-cost, renewable generation resources. Unfortunately, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s current framework for interregional transmission planning is overly burdensome and has failed to yield any significant interregional projects since Order No. 1000 was issued almost 12 years ago. The Interregional Transmission Planning Improvement Act would streamline the planning process for these vital projects and allocate the underlying project costs commensurate with the myriad benefits provided.”